

# Year 2 Learning Letter

Year 2  
Autumn Home  
Learning

ESSENTIAL each week:

## This Term's Project

An exciting Autumn term began with our project titled *'The World Outside our Window'* and we have begun learning about our beautiful local area, city and county. Starting with the many apple trees we see out of our classroom windows, we have moved outwards to study maps of Stoke Hill and Exeter, describing local geography and the amazing variety of features characteristic to Devon. In science children are finding out about how bulbs grow and using their observational skills to inform their artwork in pastels and watercolour. In computing children are learning how to create basic code and will also be focusing on developing research and word processing skills, promoting the use of both hands for typing. P.E. has challenged children's running, agility, and balance and with creating an 'Exeter Dance' ahead of us there is lots to be learning – so don't miss a day!

### Reading

Make a time to read regularly. Little and often is best but as the complexity and length of book increases more time might be needed. Priority should be given to the Guided Reading text. Always have a conversation about what your child has read and understood.

### Maths

x3 sessions of up to 15 minutes practise of the current maths skills on Education City. New home learning tasks will be updated fortnightly.

*Lost your Education City log-in? Ask your class teacher to provide you with this again.*

**OPTIONAL to enjoy over the Autumn Term** to further support your child's learning and skills. How much time to spend on each task will depend on the activity. A good rule to go by is... enough time to enjoy but not too much time to make learning a chore.

**Draw:** Try and draw some of Exeter's interesting old or new buildings using a variety of media. Remember what we try to do in art? We try to *'look a little, draw a little'*.

**Research:** a living creature that you are interested in, create a book, fact file, spotter sheet, top trump card – become an 'expert'!

### Visit:

<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/activity-sheets> for great ideas of things to do to care for our planet

**Go to:** outdoors to spot the signs of Autumn. A local park or Mincinglake Valley can be magical.

*Did you know that you can print off certificates from Education City?*

## Mathematics

This term we will be consolidating and extending the children's mathematical knowledge. In year 2 there is an emphasis on place value and number facts. This knowledge is fundamental to the rest of our maths learning. Keep practising counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s wherever possible! The children will also be learning about measure (length, money, time) and the properties of 2D shapes. Problem solving will be integrated into our maths lessons so children can apply their skills. Sessions will always include a 'challenge' element to extend learning and for children to 'grow their brain'.

## English

We started the term with a great rhyming tale 'Oi Frog' and more recently have been focusing upon autobiographical writing, including biographies of children from around the world.

Non-fiction and traditional texts will also be studied later this term. Children will continue to develop their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge and show this in their writing as well as checking the spelling of those tricky words.

As the children become more confident writers we will be really focusing on presentation and layout. All children need to be trying their best to join their handwriting now they are in Year 2.

*'If parents want to give their children a gift the best thing they can do is to teach their children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort and keep on learning. That way, their children don't have to be slaves of praise. They will have a lifelong way to build and repair their own confidence.'*

Carol Dweck



# So far this term...

We have cooked great flapjack and frittata, juiced apples and before half term worked with Devon Wildlife Trust as part of learning in science. Using our wet but beautiful wildlife area, through listening carefully to Paul and Emily from the Devon Wildlife Team and enjoying a 'Scavenger Hunt' activity, the children were challenged to identify natural items that:

- were alive
- had never been alive
- had once been alive

You can find out more about the work of the Devon Wildlife Trust by visiting their website [www.devonwildlifetrust.org](http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org) (check out their wildlife cams!) You might also like to try a swiggle safe search to research your science questions [www.swiggle.org.uk](http://www.swiggle.org.uk)

*inspire*



*d  
i  
s  
c  
o  
v  
e  
r*

*succeed*

## Out and About

With shorter days and longer nights there is still lots to do out of doors. Why not be an 'Autumn Nature Detective'? Visit

<http://www.naturedetectives.org.uk/autumn/> for more activities like this one.

